

# Winterfest '81: A last laugh at seasonal blues



Helping out the hungry hoardes, Georgetown Jaycees and fellow organizing groups will keep youngsters both amused and well-fed at their Feb. 7 Winterfest celebration in the Georgetown Fairgrounds Park, primarily with the return of the popular donut-eating contest. These eager young men proved last year they could win this contest with both hands tied behind their backs. (Herald photo)

By CHRIS AAGAARD  
Herald Staff Writer  
A group of bold high school students have made reservations for an overnight stay in Mother Nature's deep freeze as part of a growing list of activities planned for the Georgetown Jaycees' Winterfest '81.

Winterfest public relations officer Tony Evers told The Herald Friday that several popular events will return Feb. 7 to the Georgetown Fairgrounds, as Halton Hills laughs off what has become a record-breaking cold season. Sleigh rides, delayed during last year's celebrations because of track problems, will again be featured thanks to the sponsorship of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce. Youngsters, Mr. Evers added, had better start limbering up for another donut-eating contest, one of the most popular events for audience and participants alike during Winterfest '80.

The Winterfest beaver (costume courtesy of Beaver Lumber on Guelph Street) is suffering from an acute identity crisis. Advertisements appear-

ing in this week's and subsequent issues of The Herald promoting Winterfest will feature entry forms for name suggestions. Ballots can be



dropped off at Akers-Clark Real Estate and Golden Fish and Chips on Main Street, as well as the Beaver Lumber outlet.

Adventurous students of the Georgetown and District High School Outer's Club plan to spend the night in ice-huts constructed at the Fairgrounds. Cross-country ski trails through the park will also be mapped out by the group.

Sculptors should plan to get to the Fairgrounds early Winterfest morning to pack

and chisel frozen "objets d'art" for judging in the snow sculpture contest. The Jaycees suggest working that day on the sculptures to keep them from being vandalized before judging.

The Kinsmen are going ahead with a novice car rally, expected to start Saturday morning between 9 and 10 o'clock. Departure time will depend on the number of entries the club receives.

The Georgetown Football League has turned over the organization of the broomball tournament to the Halton Hills Elks Lodge. The Elks will meet this Friday evening in

their lodge on Mountainview Road South to discuss plans for the tournament, which is open to all interested groups.

Meanwhile, the Halton Hills recreation and parks department has promised two rinks for sporting events at the Fairgrounds—one for family skating, the other for broomball and "monsterball". The Jaycees managed to get a large monsterball (which takes an entire team to push it across the opening goal line) from the Keg Restaurant in Brampton.

Dog-sled races proposed for Winterfest have not been confirmed, Mr. Evers said, but he

added that an invitational race looks promising and a local dog-sled club has indicated it could set up a three- to five-mile course.

Businesses in the area will be displaying their wares throughout the Fairgrounds. The Racer's Edge in Milton and Georgetown's Hazen Auto Service plan to have snowmobile safety demonstrations, while other local enterprises are invited to set up product displays in the Armory.

A dance following the day's activities will also be held at the Armory. Tickets for the event are available for \$6 a couple from any Jaycee or

Jaycote member, or call Diane Penrice at 877-8768.

As yet, no firm opening time for Winterfest has been set. However, Halton Hills residents will have to look long and hard before finding cheaper entertainment for the day; youngsters will only have to pay 25 cents to get into the Fairgrounds, adults 50 cents and an entire family only \$1.

The Jaycees have also organized a special food voucher gate prize. The voucher, redeemable at Miracle Mart, is valued at \$200.

Contact Doug Penrice or Bill Payhk for further information on Winterfest '81 events.

## 'Domestic' status traps unwary private nurse

Registered nurses working in private homes should have a clear understanding with their employers about what their job involves, Halton Hills legal clinic community worker Karen Thompson-Harry warned Friday.

Otherwise, they could be in for a few unpleasant surprises. Referring to the case of a nurse who discovered, while working in an Esqueping home, that she was classified as domestic help and thus not eligible for full-time pay benefits, Mrs. Thompson-Harry urged private nurses to get the terms of their employment in writing.

Unfamiliar with Canada's labor laws and specifically with the province's Employment Standards Act (1974), the nurse was classified as a household servant, although she carried out regular nursing duties.

As a result, she never received overtime and vacation pay, nor was unemployment insurance deducted from her weekly cheque. When she left the home last April, her salary was comparable with that of her colleagues at the Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital.

"She was never given a statement of what her earnings were," Mrs. Thompson-Harry said, adding that it is the employer's responsibility to make the necessary deductions on the payroll.

The legal clinic filed a complaint last spring on behalf of the nurse to the provincial ministry of labor's Kitchener office.

By October, an employment

## Priest appeals fraud decision

Herald Special  
The leader of a Limehouse religious retreat convicted of fraud two and a half years ago wants to appeal his conviction and jail sentence to the Supreme Court of Canada.

Denis Scallen, 58, who claimed to be a Roman Catholic priest and the leader of the Benedictines of Mary Immaculate Order, was given a six month jail sentence in July, 1978, when a jury found him guilty of defrauding parents of two teenage "nuns" of \$1,000 and an Oakville man of \$80 donated to his religious group.

In October, the Ontario Court of Appeal upheld the county court decision and Mr. Scallen began serving his sentence. However, an application to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada will be heard Jan. 27, says Mr. Scallen's lawyer, David Harris.

During the nine day trial in Milton it was alleged that Scallen "confined" teenage "nuns" for up to two and a half years and forced them to strip before him as penance for sin.

The court was also told Scallen, or Father Benedict as he was known, was "ordained" in Montana but without the permission of Hamilton Roman Catholic Diocese Bishop Paul Reding. Throughout the trial, Mr. Scallen, a twice divorced father of two, maintained his innocence and insisted he was a bona fide Roman Catholic priest.

standards officer had ruled that her "domestic" status was legal and her employers were not obliged to pay approximately \$1,000 in benefits.

But even within the ministry's employment standards branch, there is some disagreement over the Kitchener office's findings, and the legal clinic has appealed the decision. A new officer will investigate the case and may report his findings within three weeks of his assignment.

Officially, the employment standards office says that she is not entitled to vacation pay because the Health Discipline Act says that professionals working in private homes are not necessarily eligible for holiday benefits. Nurses, the

clinic argues, do not fall under that section of the Act.

"I would have to say that nurses and their employers should have everything set out from the start," Mrs. Thompson-Harry said, advising that nurses should refuse to take the job unless benefits are understood in the terms of employment.

"Get that laid out, get it down in writing," she said.

Verbal contracts, while binding, may have trouble standing up in court.

Nurses should also avoid entering into contract arrangements if they want full-time benefits. Contracts indicate that the nurse is self-employed and the employer is not obliged to take regular deductions from her pay slip.



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